

Docket: 80040

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sumner et al.

Serial No.: 10/667,744

Group Art Unit:

Filed: September 22, 2003

Examiner:

For: PROCESS FOR THE OXIDATIVE PURIFICATION OF A CRUDE CARBOXYLIC
ACID SLURRY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

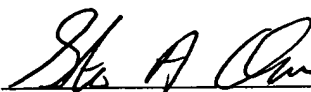
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.56, the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

Applicants wish to make known to the Examiner the disclosed process was practiced more than one year before the filing date of the above application where the crude carboxylic acid slurry comprised terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid. In other words, the process was practiced where terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid in the crude carboxylic acid slurry was in an amount greater than 5%. However, applicants believe that the above events do not alter the patentability of the claimed invention which utilizes the process in the substantial absence of TPA and IPA.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Respectfully submitted,

Eastman Chemical Company
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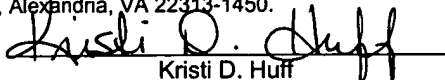

Steven A. Owen
Registration No. 50,355
2/24/2004
Date

Docket: 80040

PATENT

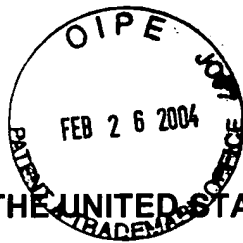
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Kristi D. Huff

2/24/04
Date

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

IDS transmittal to the examiner incorporating information regarding the practice of the process where the crude carboxylic acid slurry comprised TPA and IPA.

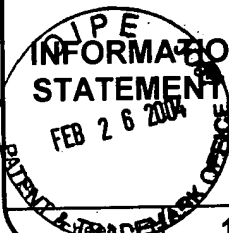
After consideration of the above information, please sign below and return this page to applicants.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Please type a plus (+) sign in this box →

+

Substitute for form 1449 	Attorney Docket Number		80040	
	First Named Inventor		Sumner et al.	
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN			
	Application Number	10/667,744		
	Filing Date	September 22, 2003		
	Group Art Unit			
1	of	1	Examiner Name	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code* (if known)	
		3,584,039		06-08-1971
		3,996,271		12-07-1976
		4,158,738		06-19-1979
		4,939,297		07-03-1990
		U.S. Application No.: 10/645,737		Filed 08-21-2003
		U.S. Application No.: 10/645,734		Filed 08-21-03

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code* (if known)		
		JP	2001-139514	A	05-22-2001	√
		JP	2001-247511		09-11-2001	√
		JP	2001-288139		10-16-2001	√

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.